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Volunteering with Europaia

Tiberiu's experience

Volunteers are the backbone of Europaia. Europaia's mission is empowering, supporting, training, and representing European nationals in Greater Manchester; thus, Europaia is a social and community organisation. Europaia's volunteers, interns, student placements, partners and staff make up **The Europaia Family**. Together, we aim to help each other; we might be from many nationalities, but with just one heart.

Tiberiu arrived from Romania in 2016 looking to live freely. Later he would start a course at the university. In the beginning, he did not think of volunteering, as his life was too busy.

Then, a friend, who was already volunteering with Europaia, asked him for help with some documents about the EU Settlement Status Scheme. They want to translate some information to help other Romanians to apply. Pre-Brexit had come, and there Tiberiu could help. Besides, he realised how important is an organisation that helps and **gives voice to those who need** it the most.

He is one of the most veteran volunteers. He is working in a shop, finishing his last year at University and giving some time for volunteering. He said his interest in helping people has '**sparked**'. He saw how some people are victims of exploitations due to not knowing their rights or the language.

Tiberiu said:

"I can genuinely say that at times I was shocked to hear the situations people go through, and how they may be treated as second class citizens".

Volunteering is a placement to develop skills and has proven **helpful in personal and professional life**. There are many roles suitable at Europaia: Translator, Administration Assistant, Researcher, Advisor and many more.

To find out more about volunteering with Europaia, please visit www.europia.org.uk

For information about free services and support for EU nationals in Greater Manchester, visit www.europia.org.uk | <https://www.facebook.com/EuropaiaMcr> | <https://twitter.com/EuropaiaMcr>

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